## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A highly sensitive real-time RT-PCR capable of specifically detecting the expression of more than one MAGE gene, wherein reverse transcription of the corresponding MAGE transcripts is carried out simultaneously in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction.

2-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A diagnostic composition comprising ~~at least one suitable cDNA-primer hybridizing to at least two different MAGE gene transcripts for simultaneous reverse transcription of at least two different MAGE gene transcripts in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction~~a cDNA-primer MgRT3a (SEQ ID NO:4).

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) An oligonucleotide ~~selected from the following group of primers:~~

designated MgRT3a (SEQ ID NO:4) ~~and~~
~~Mg1_RT5a (SEQ NO:35)~~
~~PBGD_RT15b~~.

22-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, ~~wherein the at least one cDNA primer for reverse transcription of MAGE mRNA is selected from the following groups of oligonucleotides:~~

~~(A)~~

| ~~primer~~ | ~~sequence (5' - 3')~~ |
|---|---|
| ~~MgRT3a~~ | ~~ACC TGC CGG TAC TCC AGG~~ |

| | |
|---|---|
| ~~MgRT2~~ | ~~CAG CTC CTC CCA GAT TT~~ |
| ~~MgRT5a~~ | ~~AGG ACT TTC ACA TAG CTG GTT TCA~~ |
| ~~MgRT1b~~ | ~~CCA GCA TTT CTG CCT GTT TG~~ |
| ~~MgRT4~~ | ~~GCC CTT GGA CCC CAC AGG AA~~ |
| ~~MgRT6~~ | ~~TTT ATT CAG ATT TAA TTT C~~ |
| ~~MgRT1a~~ | ~~CCA GCA TTT CTG CCT TTG TGA~~ |
| ~~MgRT3b~~ | ~~ACC TGC CGG TAC TCC AGG TA~~ |
| ~~MgRT5b~~ | ~~GGA CTT TCA CAT AGC TGG TTT C~~ |

~~(B)~~

| ~~primer~~ | ~~sequence (5' - 3')~~ |
|---|---|
| ~~Mg1_RT5a~~ | ~~CAC TGG GTT GCC TCT GTC~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT1~~ | ~~CAA GAG ACA TGA TGA CTC TC~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT2~~ | ~~TTC CTC AGG CTT GCA GTG CA~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT3~~ | ~~GAG AGG AGG AGG AGG TGG C~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT4~~ | ~~GAT CTG TTG ACC CAG CAG TG~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT5c~~ | ~~CTG GGT TGC CTC TGT CGA G~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT5d~~ | ~~GGG TTG CCT CTG TCG AGT G~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT5e~~ | ~~GGC TGC TGG AAC CCT CAC~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT6~~ | ~~GCT TGG CCC CTC CTC TTC AC~~ |
| ~~Mg1_RT7~~ | ~~GAA CAA GGA CTC CAG GAT AC~~ |

further comprising the primer Mg1_RT5a (SEQ ID NO:14).

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, the composition further comprising a ~~suitable~~ cDNA-primer ~~hybridizing~~that hybridizes to ~~an appropriate~~a calibrator mRNA for reverse transcription of ~~an appropriate~~a calibrator mRNA~~, wherein reverse transcription of the appropriate calibrator mRNA is simultaneous with reverse transcription of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts, and wherein reverse transcription of the appropriate calibrator mRNA and of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts are in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction, said single cDNA-synthesis reaction being followed by PCR-amplification of the MAGE- and calibrator cDNAs~~.

28. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim 27, wherein the calibrator mRNA is porphobilinogen desaminase (PBGD) mRNA, ~~glyceraldehyd-3-phospat dehydrogenase (GAPDH) mRNA, beta-2-microglobin mRNA, or beta-actin mRNA~~.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim [[29]]28, wherein the composition comprises oligonucleotide MgRT3a (SEQ ID NO:4) as a primer for reverse transcription of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts and PBGD RT15b (SEQ ID NO: 35) as primer for reverse transcription of the PBGD mRNA.

31. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim 28, the composition further comprising PCR-primers for amplification of the calibrator mRNA, wherein the calibrator mRNA is porphobilinogen desaminase (PBGD) mRNA, and wherein said PCR-primers for amplification of PBGD-cDNA comprise the oligonucleotides ~~selected from the following groups:~~

| ~~PBGD sense primer~~ | ~~sequence (5' - 3')~~ |
|---|---|
| ~~hu_PBGD_se~~ | ~~AGA GTG ATT CGC GTG GGT ACC~~ |
| ~~PBGD_8~~ | ~~GGC TGC AAC GGC GGA AGA AAA C~~ |
| ~~PBGD_8_F~~ | ~~TGC AAC GGC GGA AGA AAA C~~ |
| ~~PBGD_ATG-Eco~~ | ~~ATG TCT GGT AAC GGC AAT GC~~ |

| ~~PBGD antisense primer~~ | ~~sequence (5' - 3')~~ |
|---|---|
| ~~PBGD_3~~ | ~~TTG CAG ATG GCT CCG ATG GTG AA~~ |
| ~~PBGD_3.1_R~~ | ~~GGC TCC GAT GGT GAA GCC~~ |
| ~~PBGD_R~~ | ~~TTG GGT GAA AGA CAA CAG CAT C~~ |

hu PBGD se (SEQ ID NO:44) and PGBD R (SEQ ID NO:50) as primer pairs for PCR-amplification of PBGD-cDNA.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, the composition further comprising PCR-primers for amplification of MAGE-cDNA, the primers comprising oligonucleotides selected from one of the following groups:

(C)

| PCR-primer | sequence (5' - 3') |
|---|---|
| ~~MAGE-A1~~ | ~~GTA GAG TTC GGC CGA AGG AAC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A1~~ | ~~CAG GAG CTG GGC AAT GAA GAC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A2~~ | ~~CAT TGA AGG AGA AGA TCT GCC T~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A2~~ | ~~GAG TAG AAG AGG AAG AAG CGG T~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A3/6~~ | ~~GAA GCC GGC CCA GGC TCG~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A3/6~~ | ~~GAT GAC TCT GGT CAG GGC AA~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A4~~ | ~~CAC CAA GGA GAA GAT CTG CCT~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A4~~ | ~~TCC TCA GTA GTA GGA GCC TGT~~ |
| MAGE-A10 | CTA CAG ACA CAG TGG GTC GC |
| MAGE-A10 | GCT TGG TAT TAG AGG ATA GCA G |
| ~~MAGE-A12~~ | ~~TCC GTG AGG AGG CAA GGT TC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A12~~ | ~~ATC GGA TTG ACT CCA GAG AGT A~~ |

(D)

| PCR-primer | sequence (5' - 3') |
|---|---|
| ~~MAGE-A1~~ | ~~TAG AGT TCG GCC GAA GGA AC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A1~~ | ~~CTG GGC AAT GAA GAC CCA CA~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A2~~ | ~~CAT TGA AGG AGA AGA TCT GCC T~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A2~~ | ~~CAG GCT TGC AGT GCT GAC TC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A3/6~~ | ~~GGC TCG GTG AGG AGG CAA G~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A3/6~~ | ~~GAT GAC TCT GGT CAG GGC AA~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A4~~ | ~~CAC CAA GGA GAA GAT CTG CCT~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A4~~ | ~~CAG GCT TGC AGT GCT GAC TCT~~ |
| MAGE-A10 | ATC TGA CAA GAG TCC AGG TTC |
| MAGE-A10 | CGC TGA CGC TTT GGA GCT C |
| ~~MAGE-A12~~ | ~~TCC GTG AGG AGG CAA GGT TC~~ |
| ~~MAGE-A12~~ | ~~GAG CCT GCG CAC CCA CCA A~~ |

34. (Canceled)